

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-8 (cancelled)

9. (new) A horseshoe made of a solid homogenous metal comprising a toe section (210) on each side followed by side sections (215) and heel sections (220), characterized in that at least one bending articulation region is provided in each side section (215), said articulation regions (216) realized by local structural weakenings of the shoe (200) and positioned as to correspond to the transition from the toe to the quarters of a hoof, and in that the toe section (210) is rigid as compared to the two side sections (215).

10. (new) The horseshoe according to claim 9, further characterized by an essentially flat approximately U-shaped body (205) and a ridge (225) formed on the outer part of the body and extending along the body (205), said ridge (225) having a first shape in the toe section (210) and at least a second shape in the side sections (215), wherein the second shape of the ridge have a smaller cross sectional area than the first shape and the transitions between the first and second shapes forms the articulation regions (216).

11. (new) The horseshoe according to claim 9, wherein articulation regions (216) for the springing motion of the horseshoe are formed in close proximity to the toe section (210).

12. (new) The horseshoe according to claim 9, wherein articulation regions for the springing motion of the horseshoe are located as to correspond to the transition from the toe (110) to the quarters (115) of a horse hoof (100).

13. (new) The horseshoe according to claim 10, wherein the ridge (225) is provided with at least one cut-out (250) in each of the two side sections (215) to reduce the cross sectional area of the ridge, and the cut-outs (250) are located in the articulation regions (216).

14. (new) The horseshoe according to claim 10, wherein the body (205) is provided with at least one through hole (255) in each of the two side sections (215) to reduce the cross sectional area of the ridge, and the through holes (255) are located in the articulation regions (216).

15. (new) The horseshoe according to claim 9, wherein the horseshoe (200) is made of a hardened boron steel material.

16. (new) The horseshoe according to claim 9, wherein the horseshoe (200) is made of a steel material with a hardness above 10 HRC, and even more preferably above 30 HRC.

17. (new) The horseshoe according to claim 10, wherein articulation regions (216) for the springing motion of the horseshoe are formed in close proximity to the toe section (210).

18. (new) The horseshoe according to claim 10, wherein articulation regions for the springing motion of the horseshoe are located as to correspond to the transition from the toe (110) to the quarters (115) of a horse hoof (100).

19. (new) The horseshoe according to claim 11, wherein the ridge (225) is provided with at least one cut-out (250) in each of the two side sections (215) to reduce the cross sectional area of the ridge, and the cut-outs (250) are located in the articulation regions (216).

20. (new) The horseshoe according to claim 12, wherein the ridge (225) is provided with at least one cut-out (250) in each of the two side sections (215) to reduce the cross sectional area of the ridge, and the cut-outs (250) are located in the articulation regions (216).

21. (new) The horseshoe according to claim 11, wherein the body (205) is provided with at least one through hole (255) in each of the two side sections (215) to reduce the cross sectional area of the ridge, and the through holes (255) are located in the articulation regions (216).

22. (new) The horseshoe according to claim 12, wherein the body (205) is provided with at least one through hole (255) in each of the two side sections (215) to reduce the cross sectional area of the ridge, and the through holes (255) are located in the articulation regions (216).

23. (new) The horseshoe according to claim 13, wherein the body (205) is provided with at least one through hole (255) in each of the two side sections (215) to reduce the cross sectional area of the ridge, and the through holes (255) are located in the articulation regions (216).